

FINAL
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The

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FRENCH HALT FOUR VERDUN ATTACKS;
GERMANS START NEW CHAMPAGNE DRIVETWO GREAT NAVAL FLEETS
TO GUARD UNITED STATES,
PLAN OF THE NAVY BOARDForces on Atlantic and Pacific
Will Insure Country in 99
Out of 100 Cases.

CONGRESS IS TOLD.

Admiral Knight Outlines Policy
of Equalling Strongest
Naval Power by 1925.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 28.—The Navy General Board's conception of the needs of the United States as a naval power were outlined to the House Naval Committee to-day by Rear Admiral Knight, President of the Navy War College. In formulating the policy that the navy should equal the strongest afloat by 1925, he said, the board had in mind the establishment of two fleets, one in the Pacific powerful enough to overcome any enemy there, and the other in the Atlantic, where it would be exceeded in strength only by the British fleet.

A total force slightly in excess of the strength of the British fleet, he said, would accomplish this purpose and insure the country against 99 out of 100 possibilities of international complications.

The navy is not ready to exert more than 50 per cent. of its strength in ships and guns, Rear Admiral Knight said. He urged the immediate addition of 25,000 enlisted men and construction of battle cruiser and scouting craft to meet the situation.

American battleships, the Admiral declared, are equal to any built, and officers and men of the fleet are well trained and efficient, but if the Atlantic fleet were ordered out to-day to defend the whole coast line it would be unable to take all its available ships for lack of men and would be compelled to fight blindfolded for lack of scouts.

Admiral Knight submitted a sketch of possible naval movements in the Atlantic to show that an enemy fleet could strike virtually where it pleased unless scouting craft were provided to find it. The first step in the building programme this year, he said, should be the authorization of six battle cruisers and eight scouts, all with a speed of 35 knots.

The present fleet, Admiral Knight added, was unbalanced in men and scouts to such an extent that its whole defensive mission was endangered. Shortage of men, he said, represented two-thirds of all the trouble with the navy.

If the committee supplied at once the 25,000 men and provided for the ships, it would have gone a long way toward making the navy an efficient force.

To round out the building programme Admiral Knight suggested that a repair ship, a hospital ship, an ammunition ship, two aeroplanes, twenty destroyers and thirty submarines, preferably of the 800-ton type, should be authorized at once. What he proposed, he said, could be taken care of within a year, as it required only a small amount of armor in construction.

Admiral Knight also recommended provision in the pending bill for a naval base in the Caribbean Sea and for a floating drydock large enough to take a 36,000-ton battleship. To insure defense of the Philippines, he said, a "Hulagoland" or a "Malita" should be built up as a naval base at Guam.

GIRL ASKS \$500,000
FROM MILLIONAIRE
ON JILT CHARGEPittsburgh Man, Once a Recluse,
Accused in Breach of
Promise Suit by Cashier.

PITTSBURGH, Pa., Feb. 28.—Henry M. Deniston, a millionaire, over seventy years old, was to-day made defendant in a suit for breach of promise for \$500,000 by Miss Nettie M. Richardson.

The aged man at one time lived the life of a hermit on a vast tract of land near Swissvale, Pa. The steel mills began building about his domain and eventually he sold his property for an enormous sum of money.

After becoming a millionaire, Deniston abandoned his role of recluse and came to Pittsburgh, bought an automobile and proceeded to learn the ways of the worldly wise. He met Miss Richardson, who was cashier at a local hotel, and she claims he asked her to marry him.

LAMAR WINS POINT
IN FIGHT TO AVOID JAILHighest Court Will Review His
Conviction on Charge of Having
Impersonated a Congressman.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 28.—The Supreme Court to-day required the Federal Court of Appeals at New York to send up for review on its merits David Lamar's conviction of having impersonated an officer of the United States.

The court acted to-day of its own volition in Lamar's favor, after having refused to interfere in the case some time ago.

VESSEL AFIRE MENACES
SHIPS AT BROOKLYN PIERTugs Tow Burning Eurymachus
Into Bay, Where Fireboats Ex-
tinguish Blaze in Cotton.

Fire was discovered in the after hold of the steamship Eurymachus, loading a cargo at Pier No. 3, Bush Stores, Brooklyn, shortly after noon to-day. Fearing the fire might communicate with the piers and neighboring shipping, tugs were attached to the vessel and towed her into the bay.

The fireboats Gaynor and New Yorker rushed to the burning steamer and soon were pumping tons of water into the hold. Within an hour the fire was under control. The Eurymachus was loading cotton and general merchandise for Singapore, Hong Kong and Vladivostok. Cotton was being stowed in the after hold, where the fire was discovered.

It was impossible for the steamer's agents to estimate the damage. The cause of the fire is also a mystery, although it is thought a lighted match or a spark from a tugboat may have started the blaze.

The Eurymachus is a British freighter and was formerly known as the Invincible. She is owned by Alfred Holt & Co. of Liverpool, London, and is chartered to the New York agents.

169 MET DEATH
WHEN LINER MALOJA
WAS SUNK BY MINESearchers Find Bodies of 47 of
the Victims Who Went Down
With P. & O. Steamer.

260 SAFELY LANDED.

Vessel Was Eighth Sent to
Bottom Within 50 Hours—
American Among Saved.

LONDON, Feb. 28.—Revised figures show that 169 persons, including fifty-five passengers, are missing and probably lost in the sinking of the Peninsular and Oriental liner Maloja by a mine near Dover yesterday. The revised figures show that the Maloja carried 429 persons, including 115 passengers, and account for only 260 survivors.

Despatches to shipping offices to-day brought word of the sinking of the Russian steamer Perishenga, the eighth vessel to meet disaster within the past forty-eight hours, fifteen of her crew having been landed. The others, in addition to the liner Maloja, and the Empress of Port William, which went to her aid, are the British steamers Birgit, Dido and Suverier, the French steamer Trigac and the Dutch steamer Mecklenburg.

About a score of women and children were among those who lost their lives when the Maloja turned turtle, while dozens of smaller craft were hastening to her assistance. The bodies of twelve women and six children had been landed at Dover to-day and placed in the morgue for identification. Several of the survivors are near death from exposure.

The bodies of about fifty of the victims have been recovered so far. Many persons are arriving at Dover for the purpose of identifying the dead.

Ralph Foster, an American, is one of the surviving passengers. He is the son of Rev. Festus Foster of Toledo, Kan., and a Rhodes scholar at Oxford. Foster had been given a year's leave of absence to enter Army V. M. C. A. work and was en route for Egypt to join workers in the army there.

Among those rescued was a baby, warmly clad, which was found floating on its back. The child was discovered by a patrol boat and was taken into the engine room. After being warmed it smiled at its rescuers and seemed none the worse for the immersion.

All the survivors who reached London to-day agreed that there was little panic aboard. The loss of life among the passengers would have been very small, they stated, had not two of the boats collided in the water, one of them capsizing.

An official inquiry was ordered to-day to determine how it happened that the liner struck a mine.

The British press is almost unanimous in assuming that the Maloja and the other vessels sunk by mines during the week-end were victims of a fresh sowing of German mines. There is much speculation as to how these mines could have been laid. The theory most frequently advanced is that a certain class of neutral shipping was employed.

The Pall Mall Gazette suggests that such operations may drive England to still more stringent supervision of neutral shipping that has yet been exercised by the Admiralty.

The bodies of eight sailors and the captain of the Wilson liner Dido, which was sunk last Saturday, were washed ashore to-day at Donna Hook, Lincolnshire. The Dido carried a crew of twenty-nine men. The first reports of her sinking said that the captain and two of the crew had been landed by a Belgian steamer.

Dead From Gas Over Her Store.
Frances Hernd, a widow, fifty-two years of age, was found dead in her bed from the effects of gas this morning in an apartment over a grocery store she conducted at No. 155 Fifth street, Hoboken.

GERMANY STICKS TO POLICY
FOR NEW U-BOAT WARFARE;
LUSITANIA PLEDGES STANDTo Sink Armed Ships Without
Warning After To-Morrow,
New Note Says.

CARE FOR PASSENGERS.

Berlin Says Liners Carrying
Them Will Not Be Sunk
Without Warning.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 28.—Ambassador von Bernstorff to-day laid before Secretary Lansing a written communication from the Berlin Foreign Office containing a reiteration of Germany's intention, beginning Wednesday, to torpedo armed merchantmen without warning. The communication also assures the United States that Germany has no intention of revoking the pledges given in the Lusitania case.

The note says Germany can conceive of no reason for changing or postponing the new instructions to her submarine commanders to treat as warships enemy merchant ships armed "defensively" and that special precautions have been taken to prevent ships that are not armed from being attacked.

[The statements that armed merchantmen will be sunk without warning and that the Lusitania pledges will be kept are hard to reconcile. An explanation of Germany's attitude, however, may be contained in a despatch from Berlin, which says that Germany does not intend to torpedo passenger liners without warning, even though they are armed.]

The note at the outset reiterates the previous promises which were given on Sept. 1 and Oct. 5 last year for the safety of unresisting liners and then goes on to say the German Government does not believe those assurances have been modified by the new memorandum.

During the negotiations over the Lusitania, it says, no mention was made of armed merchantmen. Attention then is called to the assurances previously given in which it is stated that liners will not be sunk without warning, provided they do not offer resistance. Attention also is called to the statement of the American Government in its notice to port authorities that the presence of armament on board a merchant vessel creates the presumption that the vessel is armed for offense.

It is stated that a submarine commander cannot be expected to warn an enemy merchantman which has a right to fire on the submarine which warns it, and the German Government sets up the contention that equipment and intention to resist a warning given by a submarine does not constitute an armed force.

(Continued on Fourth Page.)

ORPET WAIVES HEARING
IN LAMBERT POISONINGStudent Accused of Causing Girl's
Death Pleads Not Guilty and
Is Held for Grand Jury.

LAKE FOREST, Ill., Feb. 28.—Will H. Orpet, the University of Wisconsin student charged with the murder of Marion Frances Lambert, a Lake Forest High School student, waived preliminary examination before a Justice of the Peace to-day.

Orpet entered a plea of not guilty and was bound over without bail for the Grand Jury, which meets next month.

HENRY MORGENTHAU JR.
TO WED MISS FATMAN.
NEW YORK VASSAR GIRL.MISS ELMOR FATMAN AS
NABOBESS OF PAUL THOMPSON

Mr. and Mrs. Morris Fatman of No. 23 West Eighty-first Street have announced the engagement of their daughter, Miss Elmor Fatman, to Henry Morgenthau Jr., son of the United States Ambassador to Turkey, who arrived here with his father last Monday from Constantinople. The son was appointed a special representative of the Department of State to assist his father in Turkey. No date has been set for the wedding.

Mr. Fatman is Chairman of the Raritan Woolen Mills and the Somerset Manufacturing Company of New York. Miss Fatman is a graduate of Vassar and well known in society circles. The young couple have known each other several years.

ITALIAN HOSPITAL SHIP
IS SUNK BY A MINENumerous Casualties, Says a
Despatch From Rome—Disaster
Off Albanian Coast.

LONDON, Feb. 28.—The sinking of the hospital ship Marchioro, near San Giovanni di Medua, Albania, reported in a despatch from Rome to the Exchange Telegraph Company.

The vessel is said to have struck an Austrian mine. It is reported there were numerous casualties.

SAYS WHITMAN
AGREED TO DROP
SIEGEL CHARGESConvicted Banker's Lawyer
Asserts Pact Bars Further
Prosecutions.

SWANN BEGINS INQUIRY.

District Attorney Seeks to
Learn if Partner, Vogel,
Died Insolvent.

A new development came to-day in connection with the prospective re-arrest and trial of Henry Siegel, merchant-banker, on other indictments when he leaves the Monroe County Penitentiary, March 1, where he has served ten months for grand larceny. This was a statement to District Attorney Swann by William M. Parke of the office of John B. Stanchfield, Siegel's counsel, that former District Attorney Whitman and former Assistant District Attorney Perkins, the latter in charge of the indictment bureau at the time, had entered into stipulations with Mr. Stanchfield that the prosecution of Siegel should end when he had served his ten months in the penitentiary. The stipulations, he said, he believed to be oral only.

Mr. Swann directed Assistant District Attorneys Embree and Johnston to get into immediate touch with the administrators of the estate of Frank E. Vogel, Siegel's partner, to learn whether Vogel died insolvent. This action was taken to learn whether Siegel can be successfully prosecuted under Section 239 of the Penal Code for accepting deposits for his bank when it was insolvent. He was indicted under this section.

It was proved Siegel and the firm were insolvent, but as Vogel was a co-partner his insolvency also had to be proved before there could be hope of a determination of Siegel's guilt, under section 239, in relation to the bank conducted in the Fourteenth Street place, in which 15,000 depositors stood about \$2,500,000 and received only 16 per cent. in return. It was owing to this lack of knowledge that Siegel was not tried on the indictment under the Penal Code section.

A bench warrant for Siegel's re-arrest, when he emerges from the Penitentiary, is already in the hands of the Sheriff of Livingston County, and word has been sent to Genesee, the County seat, that Siegel must provide new bond in the sum of \$25,000 or re-execute the old bond for that amount.

When District Attorney Swann was asked to-day whether he intended to go ahead with the trial of Siegel on the thirteen remaining indictments, twelve for grand larceny and one for the Penal Code violation, all of which have been transferred to Livingston County, he said:

"My sentiments are that the depositors in Siegel's bank have received a very raw deal. I don't think Siegel has done many things he should have done, if this is to be all the punishment he is to receive. I want to find out if we can't do something for these depositors."

It was subsequent to this statement that Mr. Parke told Mr. Swann that Mr. Perkins had intended to recommend to Mr. Swann the dismissal of the other indictments against Siegel and to tell the District Attorney there had been an understanding with Mr. Stanchfield that nothing further was to be done in the Siegel matter.

Mr. Parke said the consideration was

(Continued on Fourth Page.)

TERRIFIC STRUGGLE GOES ON
AROUND CAPTURED FORT;
ALL LINES HELD, SAYS PARISBerlin Reports Failure of French At-
tacks at Verdun and Capture of
15,000 Prisoners to Date—Battle in
Eighth Day "Bloodiest in History."PARIS ADMITS BIG LOSS
IN CHAMPAGNE REGION

Premier Briand announced in Paris yesterday that the German drive at Verdun had been checked after the first four days of the battle, which is now in its eighth day and is being fought with an intensity as great as ever. Already it is being called the bloodiest struggle in history.

Despatches from Paris to-day indicate that the French line north of Verdun is firmly holding "Pepper Heights," a range of hills running northwest from Fort de Douaumont.

The Paris War Office announced that German efforts to capture Douaumont Village, just outside the fort, had failed and that the fort itself was encircled by the French troops. According to Paris the Germans are pressing the attack on the line bending south to St. Mihiel, but were repulsed at Manheulles, thirteen miles southeast of Verdun. Paris also claims checks at Eix and Hill 255.

Although despatches from Berlin declare that the Germans are pressing ahead toward Verdun and have captured 15,000 prisoners to date, the points named have heretofore been mentioned as being in German hands.

Some significance is attached to a new German offensive in the Champagne, resulting in the capture of Navarin Farm and French positions on both sides for a distance of 1,000 yards. It is said that more than 1,000 French were captured. Paris admits the loss of Navarin Farm in a surprise attack. In some quarters it is believed the new move indicates German failure at Verdun and that this failure is to be offset in Champagne.

Surgeons in charge of the wounded, says a Paris despatch, declare there must be 30,000 wounded men dying on the battlefield in snow and rain because their comrades cannot get to them.

Reports from London declare that Prince Henry of Prussia, brother of the Kaiser, has been placed in command of the German navy and that a dash into the North Sea is expected by the fleet in connection with the new U-boat raid.

Germans Driven Back at Douaumont,
Declares the French War Office

PARIS, Feb. 28.—The report issued by the War Office to-day says that in the region to the north of Verdun the bombardment continued with intensity, particularly in the central sector and on the right.

German forces yesterday evening made several attempts to capture the village of Douaumont. Their efforts were broken by the resistance of French troops, who withstood the most furious assaults.

A German attack against the French positions at Manheulles resulted in complete failure. French artillery is replying with energy to the bombardment of the Germans along this entire right.

(Manheulles is about thirteen miles southeast of the fortress of Verdun.)
German troops, by a surprise attack, have been successful in entering